Wix

 \begin{tabular}{|l|l|l|l|}
\hline 2000 \& $2001^{\mathrm{E}}$ \& 2002 \& 2003 \\
\hline

 

\hline 2004 \& 2005 \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

| 4.12 | 3.53 | 3.96 | 4.31 | 4.56 | 4.8 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| . 89 | . 96 | . 99 | 1.16 | 1.23 |  |
| . 74 | . 80 | . 83 | . 98 | 1.03 |  |
| . 34 | . 36 | . 40 | . 44 | . 50 |  |
| . 15 | . 15 | . 17 | . 17 | . 16 |  |
| 1.87 | 2.29 | 2.39 | 2.89 | 3.31 | 3.4 |
| 4969.5 | 4972.5 | 4942.0 | 4883.1 | 4818.7 | 4738 |
| 37.5 | 30.5 | 30.2 | 22.6 | 22.6 | 19 |
| 2.44 | 1.56 | 1.65 | 1.29 | 1.19 |  |
| 1.2\% | 1.5\% | 1.6\% | 2.0\% | 2.2\% | 2.6 |
| CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 9/30/16 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Debt $\$ 47.224$ bill. Due in 5 Yrs. $\$ 28.7$ bill. |  |  |  |  |  |
| LT Debt $\$ 31.663$ bill. Total Int. $\$ 590.0$ mill. |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total | erest cov | erage: 1 |  |  |  |

(Total interest coverage: 18.4 x )
(55\% of Cap')
Pension Assets-12/15 $\$ 7.7$ bill. Oblig. $\$ 9.2$ bill.

Pfd Stock None
Common Stock $4,313,000,000$ shs.
MARKET CAP: $\$ 177$ billion (Large Cap)

| CURRENT POSITION (\$MILL.) | 2014 | 2015 | 9/30/16 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cash Assets | 18010 | 19900 | 25569 |
| Receivables | 4466 | 3941 | 4082 |
| Inventory (Avg Cst) | 3100 | 2902 | 2751 |
| Other | 7410 | 6652 | 5554 |
| Current Assets | 32986 | 33395 | 37956 |
| Accts Payable | 2089 | 2795 | 2750 |
| Debt Due | 22682 | 15806 | 15561 |
| Other | 7603 | 8329 | 9481 |
| Current Liab. | $\overline{32374}$ | 26930 | 27792 |


| ANNUAL RATES | Past | Past | Est'd '13-'15 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| of change (per sh) | 10 Yrs. | 5 Yrs. | to'19.21 |
| Sales | $8.5 \%$ | $8.0 \%$ | $-2.5 \%$ |
| "Cash Flow" | $7.5 \%$ | $6.0 \%$ | $3.0 \%$ |
| Earnings | $7.0 \%$ | $5.5 \%$ | $4.0 \%$ |
| Dividends | $9.5 \%$ | $8.5 \%$ | $7.0 \%$ |
| Book Value | $8.0 \%$ | $4.0 \%$ | $-5.0 \%$ |


| Cal- <br> endar | QUARTERLY SALES(\$ mill.) <br> Mar.Per Jun.Per Sep.Per |  |  |  | Full <br> Year. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2013 | 11035 | 12749 | 12030 | 11040 | 46854 |
| 2014 | 10576 | 12574 | 11976 | 10872 | 45998 |
| 2015 | 10711 | 12156 | 11427 | 10000 | 44294 |
| 2016 | 10282 | 11539 | 10633 | 9246 | 41700 |
| 2017 | 8000 | 9250 | 8500 | 7500 | 33250 |
| Cal- <br> endar | EARNINGS PER SHARE A |  |  |  | Full |
| 2013 | .46 | .63 | .53 | .46 | 2.08 |
| 2014 | .44 | .64 | .53 | .43 | 2.04 |
| 2015 | .48 | .63 | .51 | .38 | 2.00 |
| 2016 | .45 | .60 | .49 | .36 | 1.90 |
| 2017 | .45 | .60 | .51 | .39 | 1.95 |
| Cal- | QUARTERLY DIVIDENDS PAID B |  | Full |  |  |
| endar | Mar.31 | Jun.30 | Sep.30 | Dec. 31 | Year |
| 2013 | -- | .28 | .28 | .56 | 1.12 |
| 2014 | -- | .305 | .305 | .61 | 1.22 |
| 2015 | -- | .33 | .33 | .66 | 1.32 |
| 2016 | -- | .35 | .35 | .70 | 1.40 |
| 2017 |  |  |  |  |  |

BUSINESS: The Coca-Cola Company is the world's largest beverage company. Markets over 500 nonalcoholic beverage brands through a network of company-owned and independent bottlers/distributors, wholesalers, and retailers. Leading company/licensed brands include Coca-Cola, Diet Coke, Sprite, Fanta, Fresca, Dasani, glaceau vitaminwater, Powerade, and Minute Maid.
The Coca-Cola Company likely posted its third-consecutive year of lower sales and earnings. While the final numbers for 2016 won't be available until February, we expect currency headwinds and structural items, such as refranchising initiatives, once again weighed on fourthquarter share net, which likely declined $5 \%$, to $\$ 0.36$. Absent these factors, the beverage giant's operating performance has been something of a mixed bag, with sluggishness in emerging markets, particularly in Latin America, offsetting generally encouraging results elsewhere, such as the United States and J apan. For the full year, organic revenues probably climbed about 3\%, while pretax profits likely pushed ahead 6\%-8\%.
The company is facing another transition year in 2017. In North America, for instance, Coke aims to refranchise all of its bottling operations by the end of the year. These transactions, along with similar moves in other markets, will initially weigh on the top and bottom lines, but should allow the company to emerge as a higher-margin, less capital-intensive business. Absent these near-term head-

Int'I markets accounted for 54\% of 2015 net sales; Advertising expenses, $9.0 \%$ of 2015 revenues. Has about 123,250 employees. Directors and Officers own $1.5 \%$ of stock; Berkshire Hathaway, 9.2\%; Vanguard, 6.1\%; BlackRock, 5.4\% (3/16 Proxy). Chairman and CEO: Muhtar Kent. Inc.: DE. Address: One Coca-Cola Plaza, Atlanta, GA 30313. Tel.: 404-676-2121. Web: www.coca-cola.com.
winds, we expect currency-neutral earnings to climb at a mid-single-digit clip in the current year, with slight volume gains, efforts to improve pricing and mix, and further savings from efficiency initiatives helping to drive the growth.

## The beverage giant is preparing for a

changing of the guard. In May, M uhtar Kent will step down as chief executive officer, a role he has held since 2009, and be replaced by J ames Quincey, Coke's current chief operating officer. Mr. Quincey's familiarity with the company he joined more than 20 years ago, along with Mr. Kent's ongoing presence as chairman of the board, points toward a relatively smooth transition.
These shares are probably worth a closer look. KO stock was among the weakest performers among the 30 Dow Industrials in 2016, but this timely equity still offers a number of appealing attributes, particularly for conservative investors. In particular, it carries our Highest rank (1) for Safety, and the yield here is 150 basis points above the Value Line median.
Robert M. Greene

[^0]
[^0]:     report due Feb. 9 th. Excludes nonrecurring
    gain/(losses): '00, (30c); '01, (1¢); '02, (22c);
    torically paid about the first April, July, Oct.,
    

    Company's Financial Strength Stock's Price Stability
    Price Growth Persistence
    © 2017 Value Line, Inc. All rights reserved. Factual material is obtained from sources believed to be reliable and is provided without warranties of any kind.

